



**Multi-Modal Transportation Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
April 22 2015  
3:00-5:00 PM  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room -  
City Hall**

**Commission Members Attending:** Jim Grode, Julie Mayfield, Terri March, Mary Weber, Kristy Carter, Steven Obremski and John Ridout.

**Commission Members Absent:** Josh O'Connor, Till Dohse, Bob Roepnack, Don Kostelec and Bruce Emory.

**Council Liaison:** Absent

**COA Staff Members:** Mariate Echeverry, Martha McGlohon, Janet GeorgeMurr, Barbara Whitehorn, Erin Marie Wheeler, Gary Jackson, Cathy Ball, Dawa Hitch and Vaidila Satvika.

**Community Members:**

▪ **April 22, 2015 Agenda:** Mariate stated that under New Business agenda item: Voting on Fare Free Day is more informational. Mary motioned to approve the agenda; Julie seconded; carried unanimously.

▪ **March 25, 2014 Minutes:** After mention of a few typos, Julie moved to approve the minutes; Mary seconded; carried unanimously.

• **Public Comment:** None

**Honorable Mention:**

1. Article in Mtn Express complimenting Barb Mee regarding a workshop on addressing ways to improve access during construction of the Buncombe County Building on Coxe Ave.

2. Article in the Mtn Express addressing safety issues on Merrimon Avenue with quotes from Jim Grode and Don Kostelec.

**New Business:**

• **Multimodal Allocation for CIP:** Mariate introduced Barbara Whitehorn, Director of Finance for the City who presented future allocations of the CIP budget for multimodal transportation; and a Q&A session in which Gary Jackson and Cathy Ball also participated. A full transcription can be available upon request.

• **Discussion of creating a standing subcommittee of MMTC that meets regularly w/ NCDOT:** Julie proposed to create a standing subcommittee of MMTC members, COA Transportation and Planning staff, Land Of Sky, MPO, Planning and Zoning Board to meet with NCDOT at their regular scheduled meetings. Julie will speak with Marc Hunt and Jan Davis of MPO members and Gwen Wisler, alternate for MPO. Martha suggested McCray Coates and Greg Shuler of PW and Ken Putnam who worked with NCDOT before coming to COA who might be helpful as to the best person to speak with at DOT.

• **Discussion of publication of Commission and Committee minutes:** Mariate stated staff is asking Maggie Burleson City Clerk of her practice and Council website which is a link to the current meeting agenda where the packages are linked and the minutes in a column. Staff is working with Dawa Hitch in Media Services on the best way to post the minutes in order for the documents to be accessible to everyone including the visually impaired. Documents will be accessible upon request and the same could be done for Transit and Greenway Committees.

• **Ecusta Trail Endorsement:** Mary reported on the progress of the Ecusta Trail which was brought to the attention to the Greenway Committee by Claudia Nix who saw that several municipalities that have been endorsing the trail. The reason why COA would want to endorse due to the Buncombe County Greenway Master Plan that would eventually link up to Henderson County to have a regional greenway system. The GC approved the endorsement at the last meeting and

now we are presenting it to MMTC to endorse it and then to City Council. After a group discussion it was decided that Mary will look into this further and to speak with Gwen Wisler, Council Liaison.

- **Fare Free Day:** Mariate is asking MMTC for their recommendation to have Fare Free Day for the Strive Not To Drive (SNTD) week.
  - The SNTD Committee and Transit Committee voted to have Wednesday 5/20/15 as a Fare Free Day; which will need to go to Council.
  - Julie motioned to recommend to Council a Fare Free Day for 2015 and to be included in 2016 Fees and Charges for FY2017; Terri second; carried unanimously.
  - When selling passes for May that the passes also get discounted and prorated.
- **Fare Free Zone:** Mariate informing MMTC that staff is recommending to Council to rescind the elimination of the Fare Free Zone on 4/28/15.
  - Julie stated that the elimination was accidentally inadvertently included in the Fees and Charges and the Mayor has agreed to reinstate pending fully discussion at the Transit Committee and MMTC.
  - There is zero budget impact and more of an operational issue.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **MMTC Retreat Update:** Jim stated that there is no date in May available for a number of Commissioners. Jim recommends trying in early June and resubmitting the poll.
- **Neighborhood Sidewalk Program:** Mariate stated one of the discussions was the CIP and meeting on 4/27/15. Mariate has the information from the Festival of Neighborhoods and the idea is to review and look at the first draft of ranking on how to begin weighing those sidewalks and apply to the criteria.

### **General Committee Updates:**

- **Transit Committee (TC):** Julie reported:
  1. Fare free zone.
  2. Decided not to add an additional TC member will maintain 9 members and Dave Erb's term will end in December and a decision will be made then.
- **Greenway Committee (GC):** Mary reported:
  1. French Broad West Property on Duke property – there are two public meetings associated with this.
  2. Plans not yet received on Beaucatcher.
  3. Resident from Beaverdam community to speak on their proposed greenway. They have mapped out and proposed routes; identified all the parcels.
  4. Feasible studies and meeting with different Council members and have received positive feedback.
  5. Vote to have GC meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month rather than 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month. It was changed because Lucy Crown needs to attend the Riverfront Commission that meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday.
  6. Friends to Connect Buncombe –a collaborative greenway partners who have hired a firm Arnett Muldrow of Greenville for branding and marketing for a community visioning process to consolidated a greenway message for all of the different groups.
- **Bike/Ped Task Force:** Terri reported:
  1. Letter in Mtn Express that Ingrid wrote about challenges and crosswalks and staff worked with her to come up with a plan to address these issues.
  2. Watch for Me NC – City applied and it was approved for a State bike and pedestrian safety campaign that works closely with law enforcement and it includes training for law enforcement; branding and marketing communication campaign. City is looking for opportunities to get the word out as well as volunteers (from Barb).
  3. Neighborhood Safety initiative and PACE program will be rolling out. This will include initial assessment of behavior and perception of the neighborhoods for effectiveness.
- **P&Z:** Kristy reported that the mid-month meeting was focused on Patton Avenue on what happens if that corridor redevelops. A discussion of the flood plane in that corridor that is underutilized.

- **Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC): None**

- **SACEE:** None

### **STAFF UPDATES:**

- **Project updates:** MMTC reviewed the List of Projects. Mariate updated the budget dates, as follows:  
Budget Work session for operating is 4/28;  
Work session for CIP – 5/12;  
Presentation of Operating Budget on 5/26;  
Public Hearing for both components – 6/9;  
Council vote – on 6/23.  
It will also be printed on the Council Agenda

AIM – no updates at this time. Finalizing with Planning Dept. on community typologies and meeting with Kimley-Horn and Alan Glines of Planning. Also discussion the second public outreach and when the report will be finished.

Removing Charlotte Street from the List of Projects since it is so far in the future.

ISO140001 – ART – 1<sup>st</sup> stage will be in June and the second audit in August and perhaps receiving the certification in September.

Transit Station repairs – RFQ on repairs but in the last couple of weeks, the pavement is crumbling-sink hole and parking the buses outside of the station on the North side. Since this is an emergency, we may not be able to complete the project under the RFQ in order to pay the emergency repairs. PW is analyzing the area.

Livingston Street Complete Street RFQ released and due to April 30.

Riverfront Development group lead by Stephanie Monson coordinating all of the efforts to move forward on the projects with the Tiger. Right now we do not have updates but in the future, Mariate will group all of the Tiger projects and try to provide the update.

The CIP group has produced a list of projects from the Capital Project Management Division (CPMD). If MMTC has any questions relating to the list, CPMD will provide more information or attend a MMTC meeting.

- **Public Comment II:** None

### **Agenda Items:**

1. Standing subcommittee with NCDOT:
2. Fare Free Zone update
3. Ecusta Trail update

4:57pm adjourned